

SECRET

ENCISE

Control: 7462

Rec'd: July 15, 1955
3:54 p.m.

734

770
File
1-15

THIS DOCUMENT IS LOANED
DC/R
Central
611.30A/7-1650

4
Action
NEA
Info
RMR
SS
G
SP
C
EUR
R

FROM: Jidda

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 17, July 15, Noon

SENT DEPARTMENT 17, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 3, BAGHDAD 1, DAMASCUS 2

Department telegram 11, July 9, repeated information Cairo 56, Baghdad 17, Damascus 16.

At audience in Taif July 10 King was attended by Princes Faisal and Mishaal and Royal Councilor Gargoni and Hussaini. After presenting General Schlatter and Counselor Jenkins, I read close paraphrase four numbered paragraphs reference telegram dealing with Syria, adding by way of personal comment:

To paragraph 1: "This is true for all Arab countries as well as for Syria."

To paragraph 2: "Your Majesty will recall that this theme was stressed by Admiral Cassaday and General Tunner at audiences you kindly granted us last March and April."

Re paragraph 3: I spoke of Communist infiltration of Socialist and younger army officer groups and (on basis Damascus Embassy despatch 458, May 5) of increasing Soviet and satellite diplomatic representation in Syria and current pressures for recognition of Communist China.

REVIEWED BY
DATE 9/13/81
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/RR
COPIES DESTROYED AT INDUSTRY

Destroyed in RM/R

PERMANENT

RECORD COPY • This copy must be returned to RM/R central files with notation of action taken.

SECRET

-2- 17, July 15, Noon from Jidda

b6)
EB

Comment: I gained impression King welcomed this demarche, based as it was on Communist threat to Arab world and to Syria in particular. This would appear confirm report mentioned third paragraph reference telegram. It seems significant this connection also that King was already aware of our concern (presumably as result my demarches to Yasin and Ridwan, Embassy telegram 545, June 2, and Ambassador Byroade's discussion with Yasin, Cairo, Embassy telegram 1804, May 3) and had obviously discussed subject thoroughly with Kayyali. My impression was that, had I not raised subject, King would have done so.

Audience was prolonged better part another hour with King raising several questions e.g., were Jews pressuring United States Government sign pact with Israel, would United States Government sign Baghdad pact, and would United States Government please request British Government desist from pressures in Buraimi and Oman (all of which I will report shortly.) He was in good humor throughout and clearly wished impress General Schlatter and me with warmth his friendship for United States. We also discussed Turk attitudes in regard northern tier concept and, unhappily without encouraging result, beer for USAF at Dhahran Air Field.

At one point I expressed appreciation his courteous reception NEWSWEEK editor Kern (Embassy telegram 570, June 2) and his assurance that "if ever it comes to a showdown, America will find us on its side." King answered "I have long been saying that, but I wish America would better reciprocate." King's private

secretary

SECRET

SECRET

-3- 17, July 15, Noon from Jidda

secretary later told me it would disappoint His Majesty were he not to receive some reply to messages sent Secretary of State by Kern.

Another item indicating friendly atmosphere Saudi-America relations: ARAMCO Board Chairman Davies has told me that at his last audience mid-June King could not have been more cordial and friendly towards ARAMCO. Pricing negotiations are to be resumed next week.

I shall forward usual detailed memorandum-record of audience, together with "written answer of United States Government message" which Royal Councilor Gargoni told me following day King had directed him prepare.

WADSWORTH

EOC/5

SECRET FILE

SECRET